

--- Spice Run Lumber Company. ---# 4-

had (3) teams and 10 men, I. N. Clutter of near Lobelia had 5 teams and 12 men, Nathaniel Hollandsworth had from 3 to 5 teams and from 10 to 15 men, each of these men had camps for the men and built stables for their horses, and besides the company had 3 ~~of~~ camps operating just one at a time one was at the Dean Hollow on the main Hills Creek, one at John Eagles, and the other at Spruce Run, 12 teams and 50 men were used at these camps with the following men as boss or woods foreman, Nathaniel Hollandsworth, Toney Kershner, and Walter Bird of Pocahontas Co. Remus Rogers all of Pocahontas County and John Rossie of Greenbrier Co. Charles B Larue was blacksmith he being of Hillsboro, and Dr Marvin C Smith also of Hillsboro was the Veterinary in charge of the horses when they got sick or crippled and needed medical treatment.

Tom Snyder was general superintendant for a while and Lovic Vaughn of Lobelia and George Dolan of Millpoint were foreman of the improvement gang.

At each of the company camps you found a ~~club~~ store so the men could get tobacco and clothing without coming out to Spice Run.

Mrs Georgia Vaughn run a private boarding house that took care of some of the men and especially the foremans and their wives and the General Superintendant and other officials of the company ate there. At LOBELIA.

Accidents occurring on this operation were Archie Taylor of Renick, W. Va a section hand being run over by a train, and Romey Dorman of Beard ~~was~~ a brakeman on the train was crushed to death by a log that rolled from one of the train flat cars.

When they were running steady they cut something like 700 thousand a month and the best information I was able to get they cut in the neighborhood of 100 million during their operations at Spice Run as they cut over in the neighborhood of 23,000 acres this was on the East side of the Greenbrier River and what they operated on and near Caesar Mt, Bruffeys and Hills Creeks and upto the Cherry River Cuttings at the head of Hills Creek.

Robert B Larue of Hillsboro was store man in the company store at Spice Run.

This operation furnished employment to scores of woodsmen from this county as well as the surrounding counties and the little lumber town of Spice Run consuued the surplus farm products from the farmers in that

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section and from Beard, Hillsboro and Droop Mountain and when they finished and moved out this was greatly missed by the farmers and the county in general felt the affects as well as the other business establishments as this was one of Pocahontas County's larger lumber operations.

Clarence Nesbit of N Y .and PA. was loaderman and R R foreman, and John Coffman was one of the engineers, he is now 74 years old and he tells me he has followed woods work for 43 years and that from 27 to 30 years of the 43 were spent in Pocahontas County and mostly as a Locomotive engineer as he worked on some of Pocahontas County's leading and larger timber operations. Homer Painter, Roy Shope, and Mott Gladwell were also engineers as well as Heaston Knapp who was engineer, fireman and brakesman. Walter Wiseman was saw filer and sawyer for a time, Floyd Lovellace was also sawyer for a time.

The two locomotives were brought to Spice Run from Bemis, W, Va & bought from The Wheeler Lumber Co, who had finished up at Bemis.

Upon my visit to Spice Run the scene of this operation I only found 2 houses standing out of the 25 originally built there Mrs Blanche Dorman the widow of Romey Dorman that was killed on this operation lives in one of these houses and the other rented to different people at different times as it is generally rented to the renter of the farm and now rented to Edith Callahan. The R R steel was mostly leased from the C & O and was taken up and returned to them, the mill and machinery was shipped to Spring Creek and put in operation there.

They owned something like 15 000 acres on the East side of the Greenbrier River and today the Government owns that, but the Spice Run Lumber Company still owns 200 acres on the West side where the mill set and where all the houses were built. This operation finished up in 1925.

- Information-----
- Joe Cochran---Beard, W, Va. (Laborer on this operation)
  - Blanche Dorman--- " " (Widow of a train man)
  - Winters Cochran--- " " (Blacksmith on the job)
  - Lovic Vaughn-----Hillsboro, " (Section Foreman)
  - Frank Knapp -----Denmar. " (Lumber Piler)
  - John Coffman---- Marlinton, " (Engineer)
  - Nathaniel Hollandsworth---Spice, " (Boss and Contractor)
- Court Records Marlinton, W, Va.

... was and a retired ...  
... each Sunday ...  
... assistance ...

Chapter Seven-----  
Pocahontas County

9/17/40

American Column And Lumber Company-----

The American Column and Lumber Company of St. Albans with Mr. M. W Stark of that city Supt and general manager came to Pocahontas County on the quest of timber and was informed that the McClintic brothers namely Withrow, Lock, and George of Buckeye, Marlinton and Charleston respectively had a tract for sale.

They bought this boundry of timber for \$40,000.00 which proved to have 34 million feet on it.

They contracted the manufacturing of this timber to the Bartholemew brothers namely George and Samuel of Cedar Grove Kanawah county, Bartholemews had a single band mill which they set close the Buckeye station of the C & O railroad this timber was located on Cave Creek, Bucks Run, Dry Creek and the head waters of McClintic Run on McClintic homestead, there was approximately 700 acres of this timber both hard and soft wood. The boundary run by the Pinnacle Rocks, thence to the Billie Sod thence to the Campbell Lumber Company cuttings, then running with the farms of the following Hannah McNeill, L.A Hefner, M.J McNeill, L R Overholt, William C. McNeill, John Gay, M. Fleming, A and H, Shelton, N,C Rogers, D. A McNeill, and Jasper Auldridge.

Quite a little lumber town grew up at Buckeye station two stores a boarding house and 10 or 12 dwellings houses.

The mill was set railroad tracks were laid up Swago Creek to the timber and everything made ready to start operation they had two locomotives and a steam loader these were put on the tracks and by the use of iron cables and steel drums they were able to take the two locomotives and the steam log loader across the Greenbrier River not far from Buckeye station this was very dangerous task as they were heavy but were landed safely on the opposite side of the river.

About 100 men were used on the mill, in the woods and on the train the common laborers were paid from \$3 to \$4 a day. J. F Mills, of Charleston, took the contract to do the skidding he worked a while made no money and was forced to give it up the American Colum And Lumber Co, finished the skidding which was done with horses. This operation furnished employment for workmen from the surrounding territory and this payroll meant a lot to this section of Pocahontas County besides the payroll the market for surplus commodities of the Swago Community namely eggs, butter, potatoes, meats, and vegetables. The schoole enrollment was greatly increased in number. The church was greatly benefitted as Rev. V. V Tadlock a brother in law of the Bartholomews and a retired Presbyterian minister had Sunday School and preaching each Sunday in the afternoon with good attendance, George Bartholomew assisted

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with the Sunday School .These new comers with the help and assistance of local talent raised the morall of Swago Community.

A large percent of the people living in this little lumber town were tax payers thereby helping run our schools and to the support of our county government , which was greatly missed when they finished up and moved away.

The lumber was graded and shipped out as fast as th ey received orders for it to go to different parts of the country besides what was sold locally. Bartholomews finished up sawing in the spring of 1917, the stores sold out and quit business most of the families moved out to find employment elsewhere but for several years some of these houses were occupied but today there is no trace of this operation as the location where the mill set is being farmed by John Buckley the owner of the mill site then and today. Pocahontas County was rich in natural resourses but the greatest was her timber which left payrolls in each section of the county which helped it develop other resourses but chiefly coal, but quite an area of this once wooded area has been cleared up pat in grass that affords abundance of pasture for cattle and sheep which the farmers sell to make a living since the timber has all been cut.

Information. George Bartholomew-----Hillsboro, W, Va.

Court records. ---Marlinton. W, Va.

A.W. McNeill. Buckeye .W. Va.

J.L. Howard. Buckeye. W. Va.